



Directorate of
Intelligence

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Terrorism Review (b3)

14 January 1988

Approved for Release
Date JUN 1999

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14 January 1988

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Terrorism Review

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This review is published biweekly by the Directorate of Intelligence. Other elements of the CIA as well as other agencies of the US Intelligence Community are encouraged to submit articles for publication. Comments and queries are welcome and may be directed to the Executive Editor.

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Terrorism Review

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Focus

Reducing Syrian Support for Terrorism: Mixed Performance

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Syria has dramatically lowered its profile in international terrorism since US and European Community sanctions were imposed in mid-1986, and it has not been implicated in any acts of terrorism in Western Europe since June 1986. The decline in terrorist attacks indicates the extent of Syria's leverage over the groups it backs. Although we doubt that Syria will become directly involved in terrorism outside the Middle East in the near term, several incidents carried out during 1987 by Syrian-supported groups indicate Damascus will pursue its regional political agenda through guerrilla and terrorist attacks.

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Damascus interprets the lifting of Western sanctions as an indication it has successfully weathered the storm of condemnation over its involvement in international terrorism. Therefore, we believe Syria calculates it can resume violent attacks against Israel, particularly within its traditional sphere of operations in the region. The Palestinian hang-glider attack against an Israeli military outpost in late November 1987 is the most recent and dramatic example that Syria continues to sanction operations against Israel and its surrogates. Damascus has sought to avoid charges that it sponsors international terrorism by insisting the 1987 attacks are legitimately part of struggles for national liberation. Israeli retribution, even against Syrian targets, is likely to have only marginal and short-term success in curbing Syrian involvement in these types of operations.

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Reviewing the Six Steps

In late 1986, following the trials of Syrian-sponsored terrorists in London and West Berlin, the United States recommended six steps Syria could take to demonstrate its willingness to disengage from terrorism.

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[REDACTED]

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Prevent other Syrian-based Palestinian groups from launching terrorist acts from Syrian territory.

[REDACTED]

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Deny Syria as a safehaven, training site, and transit point for terrorists.

[REDACTED]

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Impose strict controls on Iranian activities in Syria and Lebanon. Syria placed stringent restrictions on the pro-Iranian Hizballah and the Iranian Revolutionary Guard following the kidnaping of US journalist Charles Glass in Jun. 1987, but relaxed them following his release two months later. Syria has been unwilling to risk a military showdown with these groups.

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Distance itself from Libyan involvement in terrorism.

[REDACTED]

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President Assad has [REDACTED] that he cannot control the Bekaa, indicating that he will not move against terrorist groups based there. We believe, however, that Syria could crack down on these groups fairly easily if it wished; in the past it has taken action against other Lebanese-based elements.

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Highlights

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Significant Developments

Western Europe

France

Action Directe Supporter's Middle Eastern Contacts

The French internal security service (DST) rearrested French radical Frederic Oriach, an associate of the former terrorist group Action Directe, and charged him on 27 November 1987 with "association with criminals connected with a terrorist undertaking." DST interrogations of a leftwing Iranian opposition leader, Muna Shipur, revealed plans for terrorist activity in France and included many references to Oriach.

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Oriach has been arrested and jailed several times for his varied radical and terrorist-related activities.

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Bombing Attempt Thwarted

In late December 1987, French police interrupted three men in military-style clothes who were placing explosives outside French Government offices in downtown Paris. The men fled, leaving behind a detonator and fuse, but no explosives. The device was to be triggered by an electronic garage-door opener.

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Italy

ANO Trial Opens

In mid-December the trial of Ibrahim Mohammed Khalid, aka Muhammad Abdullah Sarham, the sole surviving terrorist of the Abu Nidal organization's (ANO) attack at Rome airport in December 1985, opened in a courtroom inside an Italian maximum security prison. Four ANO terrorists, including Khalid, attacked the El Al ticket counter at the Rome airport with grenades and AK-47s on 27 December 1985, killing 12 persons and wounding 72 others. The attack, one of the bloodiest Palestinian assaults ever in Europe, coincided with a similar action by three ANO gunmen at Vienna airport that killed two persons and wounded 39.

Khalid was present at the opening session, interrupting the proceedings on several occasions. He declared he still believed in "armed struggle" but regretted the loss of Italian lives during the terrorist incident. The defendant declined to appear on the second day of his trial. He submitted two letters in which he stated he would appear in court only if the Israeli security officials at the airport were also brought to trial. He wrote that he looked forward solely to death. The trial is scheduled to resume in mid-January.

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Northern Ireland

Deadly Year in Ulster

[REDACTED] b3
persons died in the sectarian violence in 1987, up from 62 in 1986. Among those killed were 66 civilians and 27 policemen or soldiers. The Provisional Irish Republican Army (PIRA) is believed responsible for at least 40 deaths, and the various Protestant groups are suspected in 14 deaths. Twenty-two PIRA members were killed, and 13 members of the Irish National Liberation Army (INLA) died during an internal feud. A total of 283 civilians, policemen, and soldiers were wounded. Since 1969, when the violence in Northern Ireland resumed, approximately 2,600 persons have been killed. [REDACTED] b3

Press statements by PIRA leaders and an end to the feud within INLA indicate that 1988 could be at least as deadly. PIRA's chief of staff claimed the group's capabilities had not been impaired by the personnel losses and confiscation of an arms shipment from Libya last October. He also said PIRA had recruited a large number of new members and it planned to step up its paramilitary action, particularly against British forces in Northern Ireland. INLA's internal battle ended with some of the more militant members forming the Irish Peoples Liberation Organization (IPLO), and the two groups almost certainly will focus their violence against the British and Protestants, rather than against each other. There is no indication that any of the groups in Northern Ireland will break their tradition of not attacking United States interests. [REDACTED] b3

Spain

Catalonian Separatists Target US Interests

The grenade attack on 26 December 1987 against a USO facility in Barcelona that killed a US Navy seaman was probably the work of the Catalanian Red Liberation Army (ERCA), which claimed responsibility for the attack. There is no evidence to date that a Middle Eastern group was involved. ERCA also took responsibility for an attack on the US Consulate in Barcelona on 14 October 1987 that wounded eight Spanish nationals. We believe the group also may be responsible for attacks against American companies in Barcelona last spring. [REDACTED] b3

ERCA is a small Marxist-Leninist organization, possibly a radical offshoot of Terra Lliure (Free Land). ERCA probably split from Terra Lliure in early 1987 and has since targeted US interests in Barcelona, possibly because of its anticapitalist ideology and as a way of attracting media attention. It is also possible that the grenade attack may be related to current talks between the United States and Spain on reducing the US military presence. ERCA evidently intended to kill US servicemen, and more attacks against US interests are likely to occur. [REDACTED] b3

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Switzerland

Expulsion of Suspected Libyan Terrorists

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[REDACTED]

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French Interior Minister Pasqua claimed publicly on 10 December that French security services had supplied information to the Swiss concerning Libyan terrorists who were planning to kill "French persons."

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West Germany

Nationwide Raids Against the Revolutionary Cells

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[REDACTED]

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The RZ and Rote Zora—a faction of the RZ concerned with feminist issues—are made up of closely knit cells believed to be located in many major West German cities. A series of coordinated RZ attacks in 1987, as well as [REDACTED] indicate the cells have an extensive network of contacts and may have a more uniform ideology than previously believed.

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A hunger strike by key RAF members in jail could signal a major terrorist campaign by the group, as it did in 1984. That campaign—which also included attacks by AD and other West European terrorist groups—ended a two-year period of inactivity and culminated with the bombing of the Rhein Main Airbase in August 1985. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The last attack by the hardcore was the October 1986 murder of a West German government official. Although we do not have other indications a terrorist campaign is being planned, the RAF has had sufficient time to select targets, conduct surveillance, and plan a new series of attacks. [REDACTED]

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Middle East

Bahrain

Sabotage Plot Uncovered

Three Bahraini men have been arrested in connection with a plot to sabotage a number of economic installations and public utilities in Bahrain. [REDACTED] announced on 4 January 1988 that the three suspects had made full confessions before an investigating magistrate. One defendant [REDACTED] admitted receiving training in weapons and explosives at a camp outside Bahrain, while the other two claimed they had supported the first defendant's activities. Government prosecutors [REDACTED] are preparing an indictment, after which the three will be brought to trial. We suspect that Iran backed the sabotage plan in an attempt to destabilize Bahrain, which supports Iraq in the Persian Gulf war as well as the US naval presence in the Gulf. [REDACTED]

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Israel

Terrorists Attempt Raid via Jordan

On 25 December 1987, Israeli soldiers intercepted three Palestinian terrorists attempting a raid across the Jordanian-Israeli border. The infiltration marked the first successful breaching of the Israeli border by operatives coming from Jordan in at least 10 years. [REDACTED]

The three Palestinians, [REDACTED] members of the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF), headed by PLO Executive Committee member Abu Abbas, were captured just inside the Israeli border after a brief firefight. [REDACTED]

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Violence Rocks the Occupied Territories

The unusually intense wave of Palestinian violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip that began in December 1987 catapulted the Palestinian issue to center stage in Middle Eastern politics, but it is not the product of an organized Palestinian rebellion. There is no evidence that these demonstrations have been organized or controlled by Palestinian groups outside the occupied territories. The violence originated and has been particularly acute in the Gaza Strip, where 80 percent of the population are refugees who have long been more radical than the West Bank Palestinians. [REDACTED] b3

Yasir Arafat's Fatah and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine probably have provided funds and directed their supporters to exploit spontaneous violence. Islamic fundamentalists also took advantage of the demonstrations by portraying the PLO and Jordan as helpless in opposing the Israeli occupation. [REDACTED] b3

Latin America

Brazil

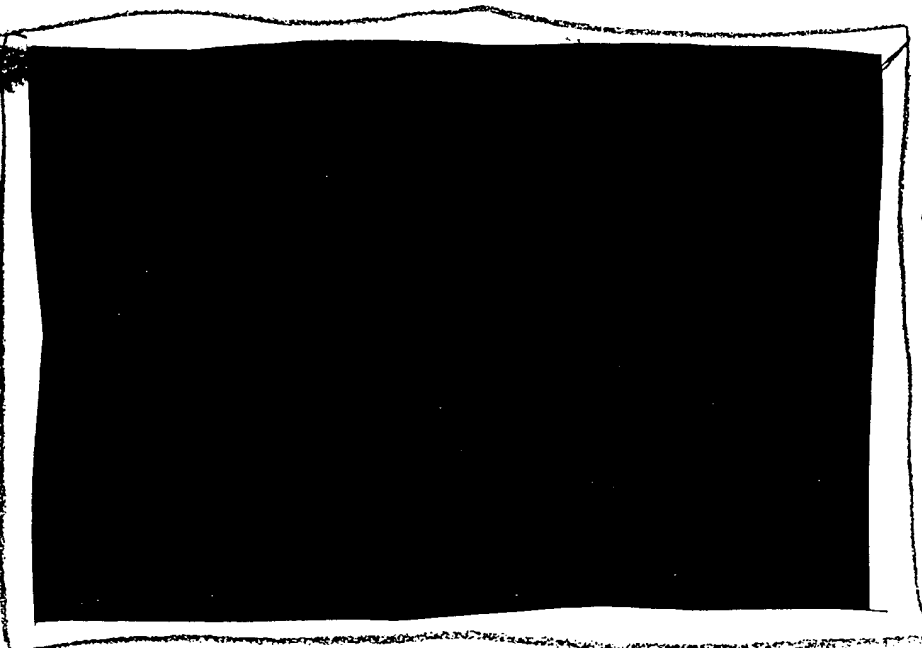
Kidnaped Chilean Colonel Released

A Chilean Army colonel who had been held hostage for more than three months was released unharmed in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Chile's Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR) kidnaped the colonel from his home in Santiago. After prolonged negotiations, the FPMR—which originally demanded \$2 million in cash—accepted \$50,000 in clothing and foodstuffs for the poor in Santiago in exchange for the colonel's release. [REDACTED] b3

Releasing its hostage in another country suggests the FPMR is able to operate outside Chile's borders. The terrorists reportedly drove from Chile through Argentina to Sao Paulo. This has raised concerns about possible FPMR collaboration with leftist groups in Brazil and Argentina. The FPMR's ability to carry off such an operation may prompt other similar kidnaping attempts of Chilean military officers and businessmen. [REDACTED] b3

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South/East Asia

Pakistan

Car Bombings in Islamabad

On 26 December, three car bombs exploded within seconds of each other at two crowded Islamabad markets, killing one person and injuring more than 40 others. One of the two market areas is frequented by US personnel, although no Americans were injured, and property damage was limited. Two of the car bombs were parked next to a carpet store run by Afghan exiles, while the third was parked at another market about two miles away. Agents of the Soviet-backed Afghan secret service WAD probably sponsored the market bombings, possibly to commemorate the eighth anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. [REDACTED] b3

The market bombings—the first inside the city of Islamabad—set the capital on edge. The following morning, Islamabad markets shut down in protest and Prime Minister Junejo ordered tighter police searches of cars entering or leaving the city. We doubt the government will be able to significantly improve security. [REDACTED] b3

Most major Pakistani cities—including Karachi, Lahore, Rawalpindi, and Quetta—suffered bombings in 1987, but the only other bombing near Islamabad occurred on 5 October at a suburban vegetable market. Furthermore, the Islamabad car bombs marked the first major explosions in public areas frequented by Westerners and Pakistani civil servants. Previous bombings generally concentrated on areas where Afghan refugees or lower- and middle-class Pakistani citizens congregate. [REDACTED] b3

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We expect such bombings to continue, although we do not anticipate a sustained campaign directed particularly against Westerners. In July 1987, two car bombs in Karachi killed more than 70 persons and set off two days of riots and protests. In our judgment, Moscow and Kabul have been careful not to overdo their use of this terrorist weapon. They probably calculate that an escalated terrorist campaign would strengthen President Zia's resolve to support the Afghan rebels; on the other hand, they will continue to sponsor periodic bombings in major Pakistani cities in order to increase Soviet-Afghan leverage at the negotiating table. US citizens will continue to be at risk as indirect victims of these bombings. [REDACTED]

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South Korea

North Korean Agent Confesses To Bombing Airliner

On 15 January at a press conference in Seoul, the surviving female terrorist arrested in Bahrain claimed to be a North Korean agent and admitted placing the bomb that destroyed KAL Flight 858 on 29 November 1987. According to her confession, Kim Hyon-hui (who had traveled as Japanese tourist "Mayumi Hachiya" along with another agent posing as her father) said she and her companion were born in North Korea and had trained since 1984 to conduct attacks that would jeopardize Seoul's hosting of the Olympic Games in September 1988. Last October, she said, she and her companion received written orders from Kim Chong-il to destroy the aircraft. They flew to Vienna by way of Moscow and Budapest to carry out the scheme in mid-November. [REDACTED]

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Two North Korean agent handlers gave them the bomb in a Belgrade hotel the night before they flew to Baghdad to board the KAL airliner. According to the terrorist, the bomb was built into a clock radio that contained 340 grams of a plastic explosive. This device was placed next to a wine bottle filled with an unidentified liquid explosive that intensified the blast. The duo armed the device before leaving Baghdad and got off the plane in Abu Dhabi. At the press conference, Kim claimed to have repented and to have cooperated with her interrogators voluntarily. [REDACTED]

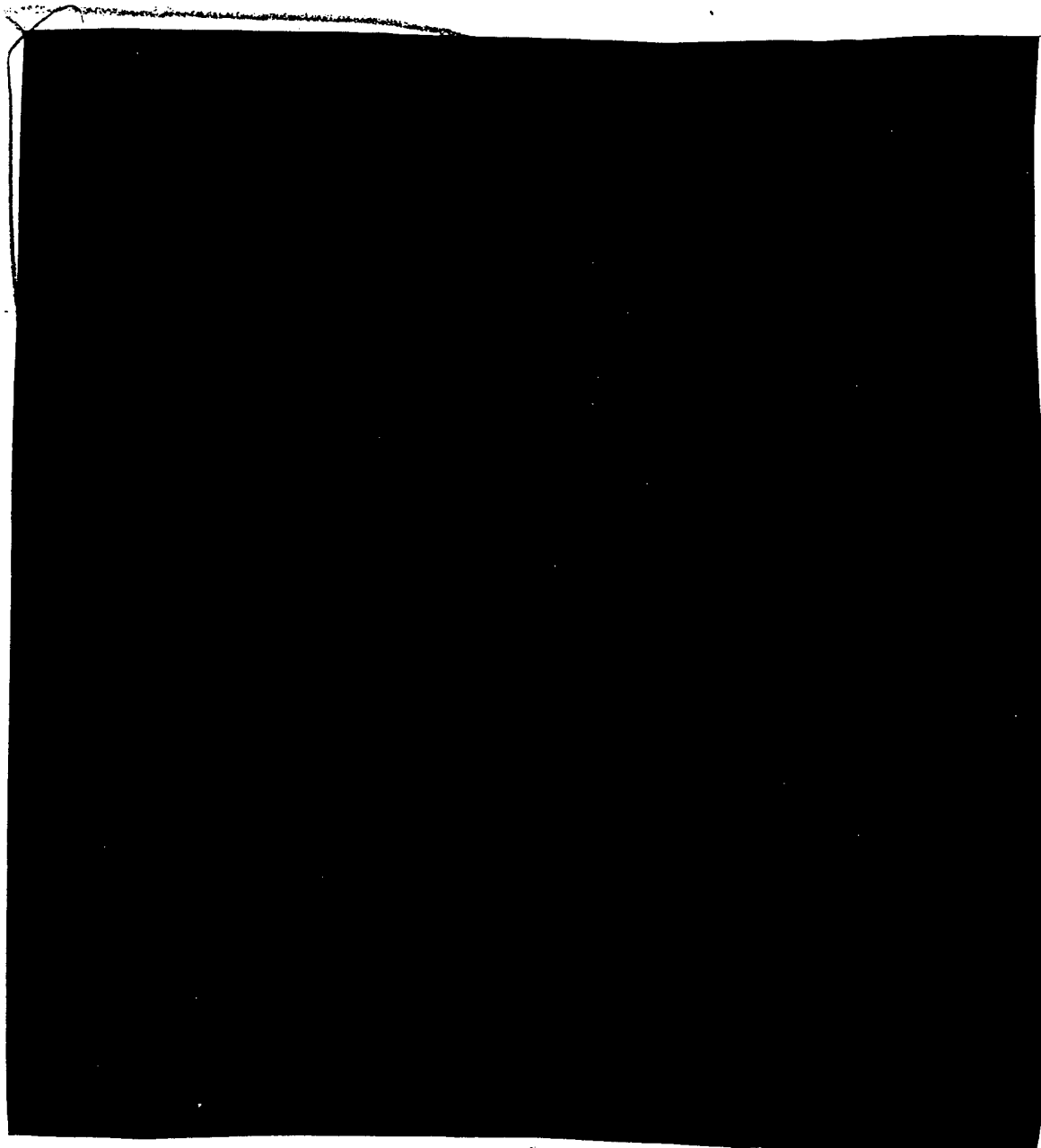
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Greek Terrorist Groups: A Peek
Behind the Shroud of Secrecy

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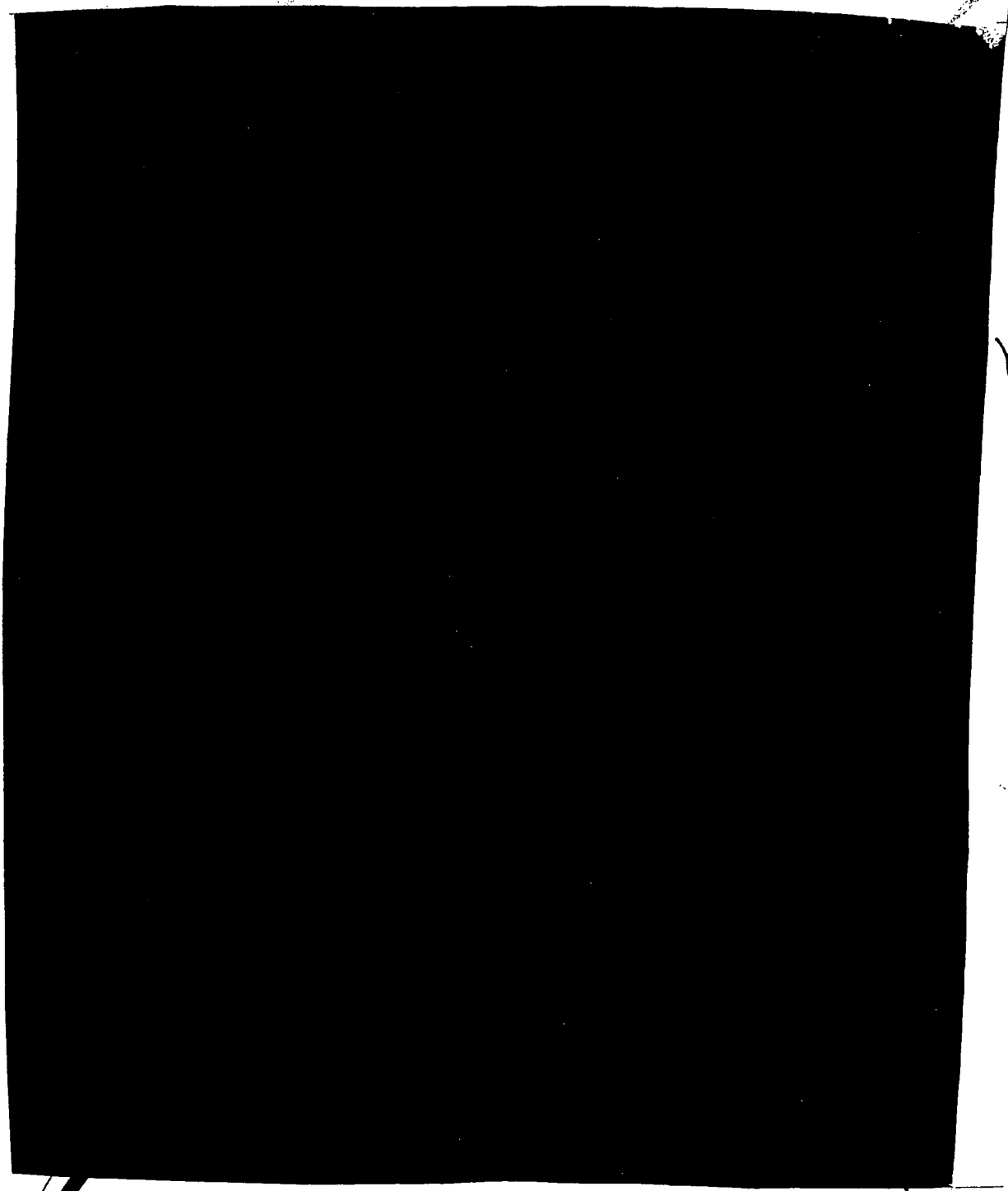
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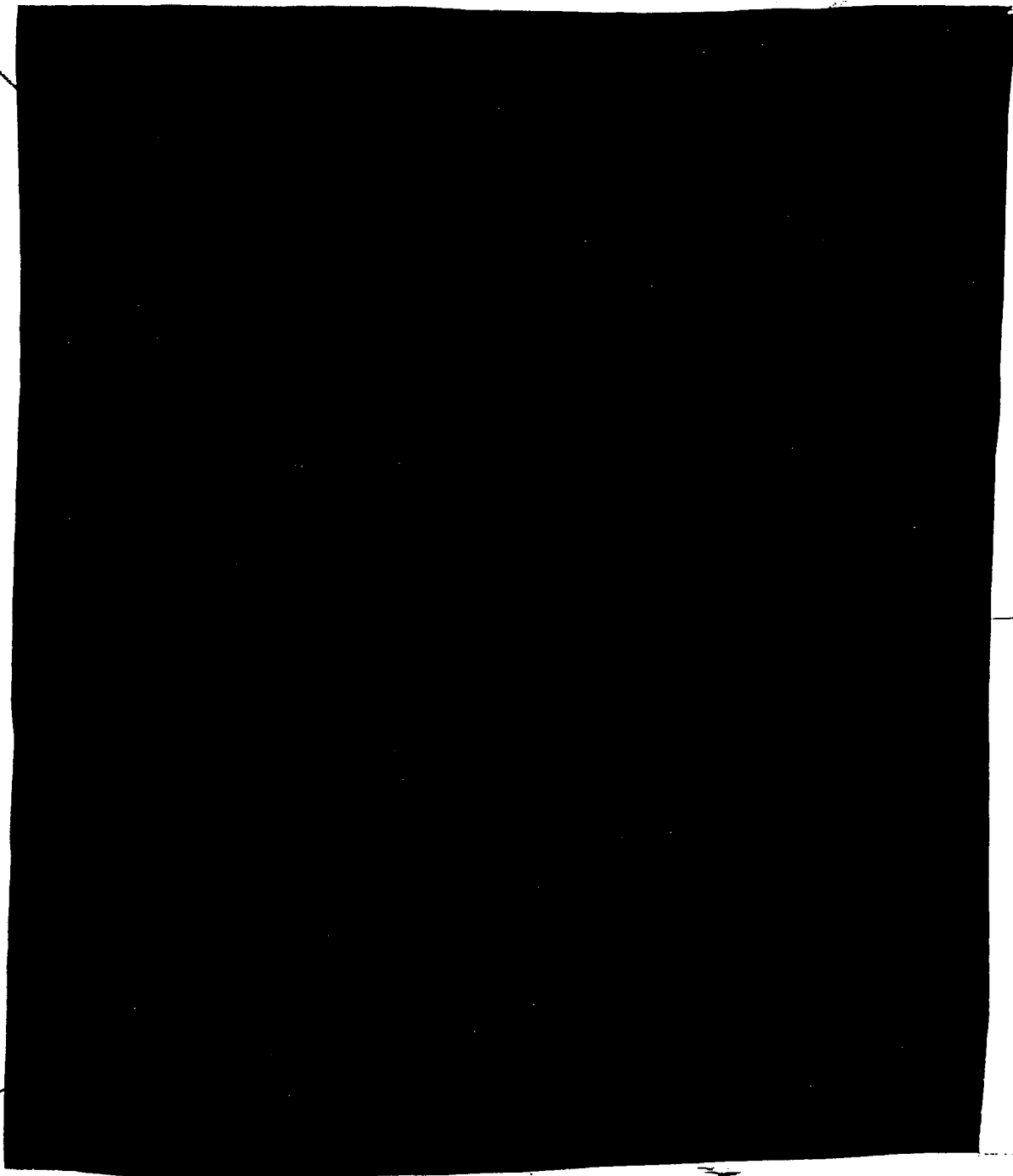


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Greek officials examine weapons and other contents of safehouses belonging to Prekas and his associates.

Changing Attitude Toward Terrorism?

The Greek public's attitude toward domestic terrorism appears to have changed over the past few years. In the late 1970s, in the wake of the rightwing military dictatorship, the public did not appear to be overly concerned about domestic terrorism. Attacks generally were designed to avoid fatalities, and the public apparently viewed the terrorists—whose targets usually were associated with controversial headline issues—as folk heroes. Concern about domestic terrorism apparently has grown in recent years, however, as the increasing violence of terrorist attacks has damaged Greece's international image and has led to a decline in tourist revenues. [REDACTED] b3

As the public's attitude seemed to change, the Papandreu government increasingly has been criticized for its apparent inability to arrest terrorists. Both the press and the opposition parties have decried government and police inefficiency in dealing with the terrorist problem. The Greek public apparently agrees with this assessment. [REDACTED] b1, b3

[REDACTED] b1, b3

We believe these groups are still able to target US interests in Greece and probably will continue to attack US installations and personnel. The ongoing US-Greek base negotiations could also increase the attractiveness of US targets, as Greek domestic terrorists often choose targets in response to current events. Two recent attacks by the 17 November group—against buses transporting US military personnel in April and August 1987—indicate an intent to inflict high numbers of US casualties. [REDACTED] b3

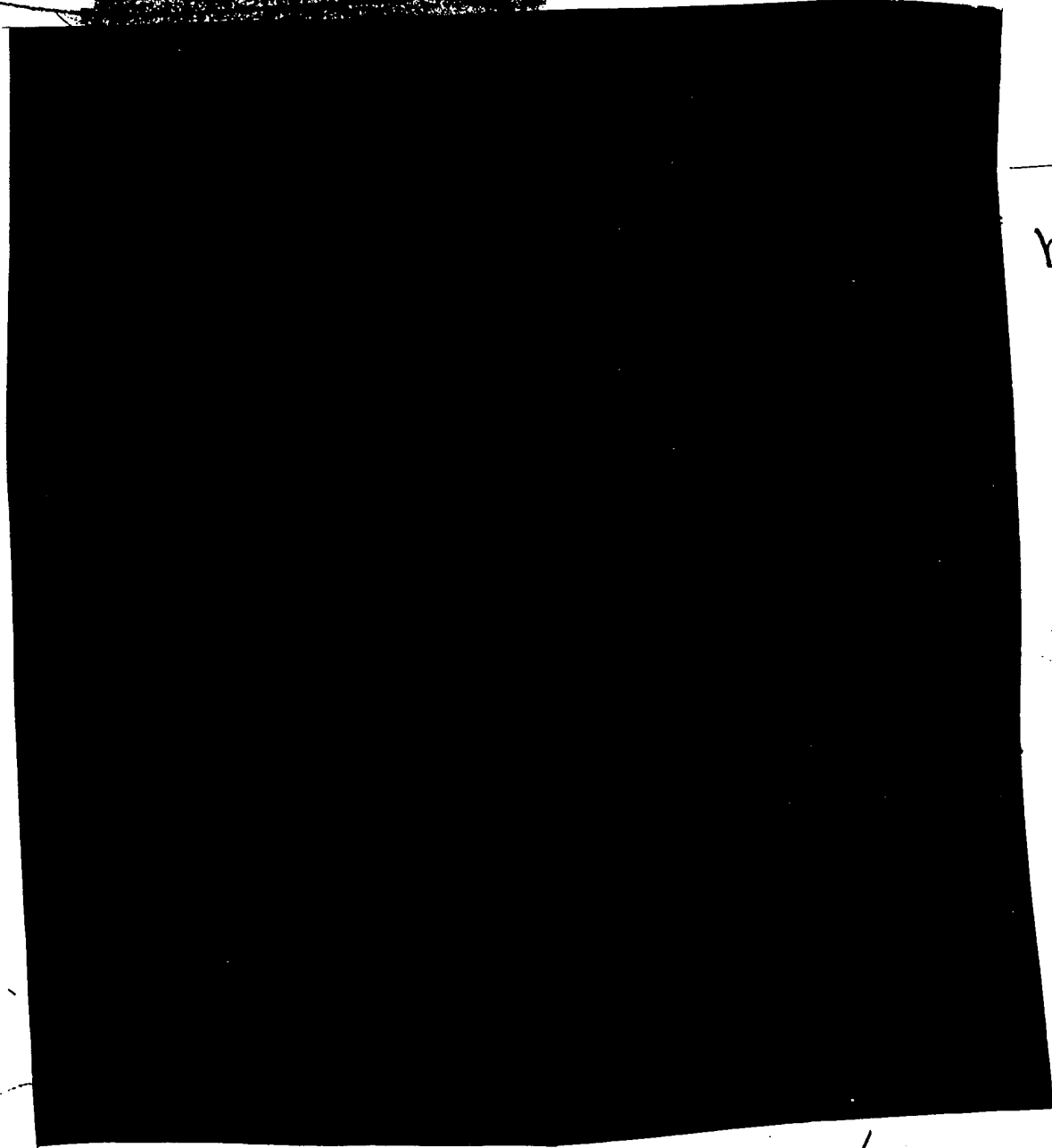
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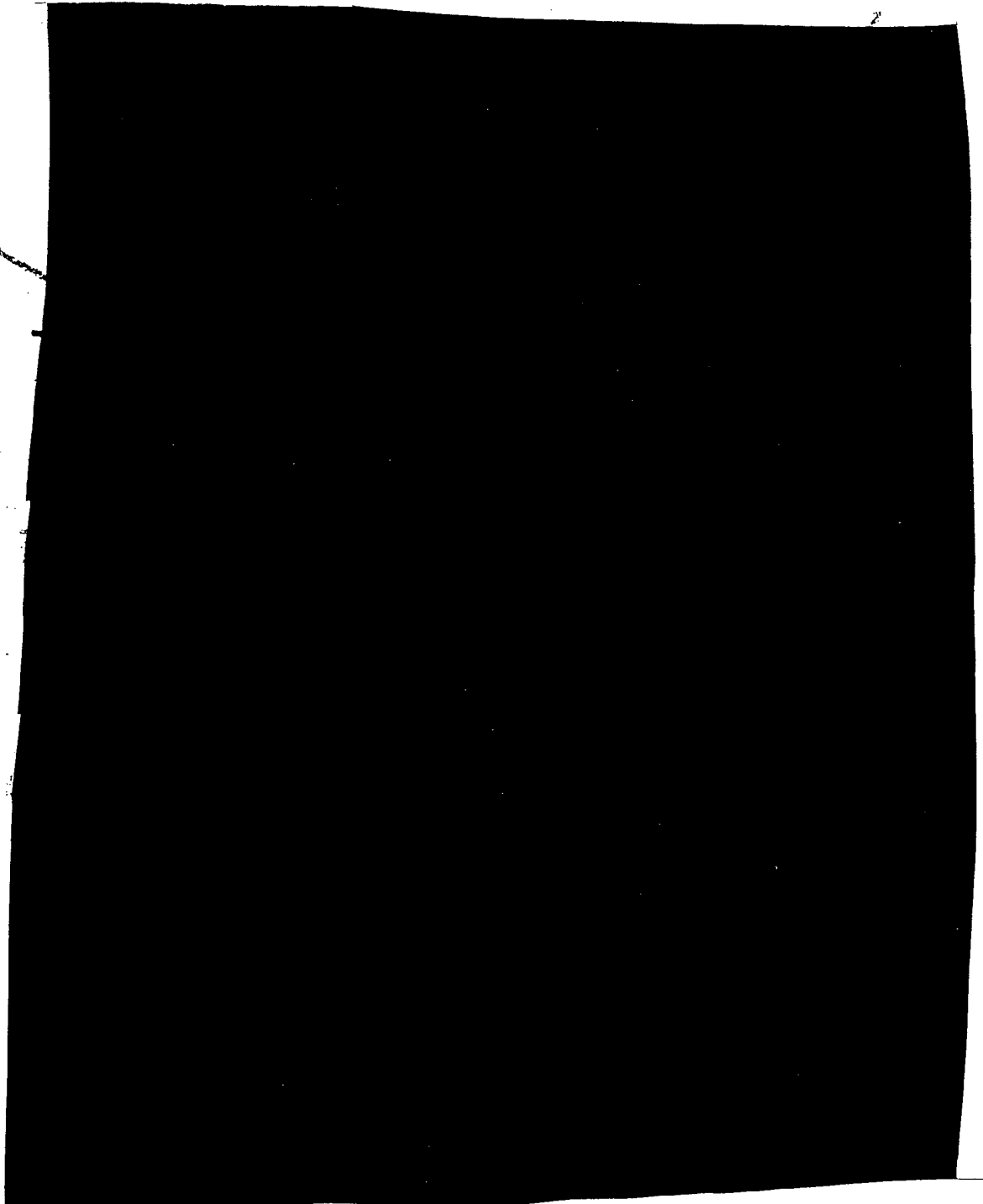
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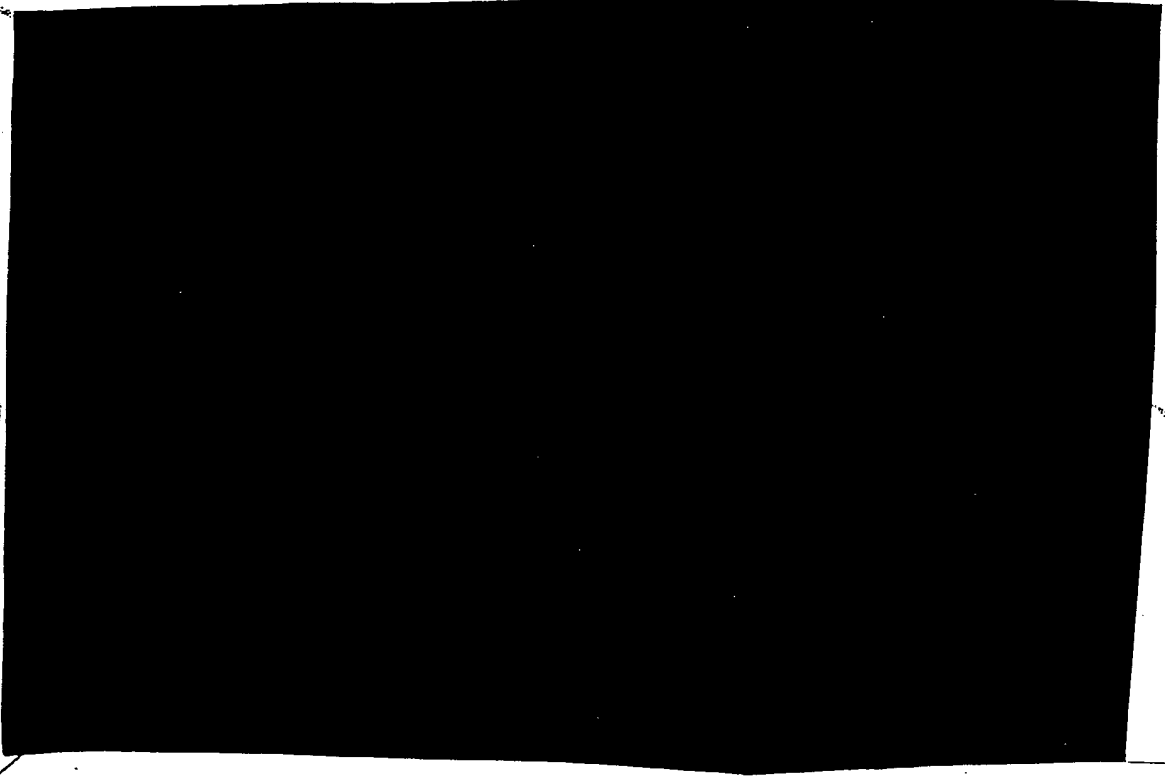


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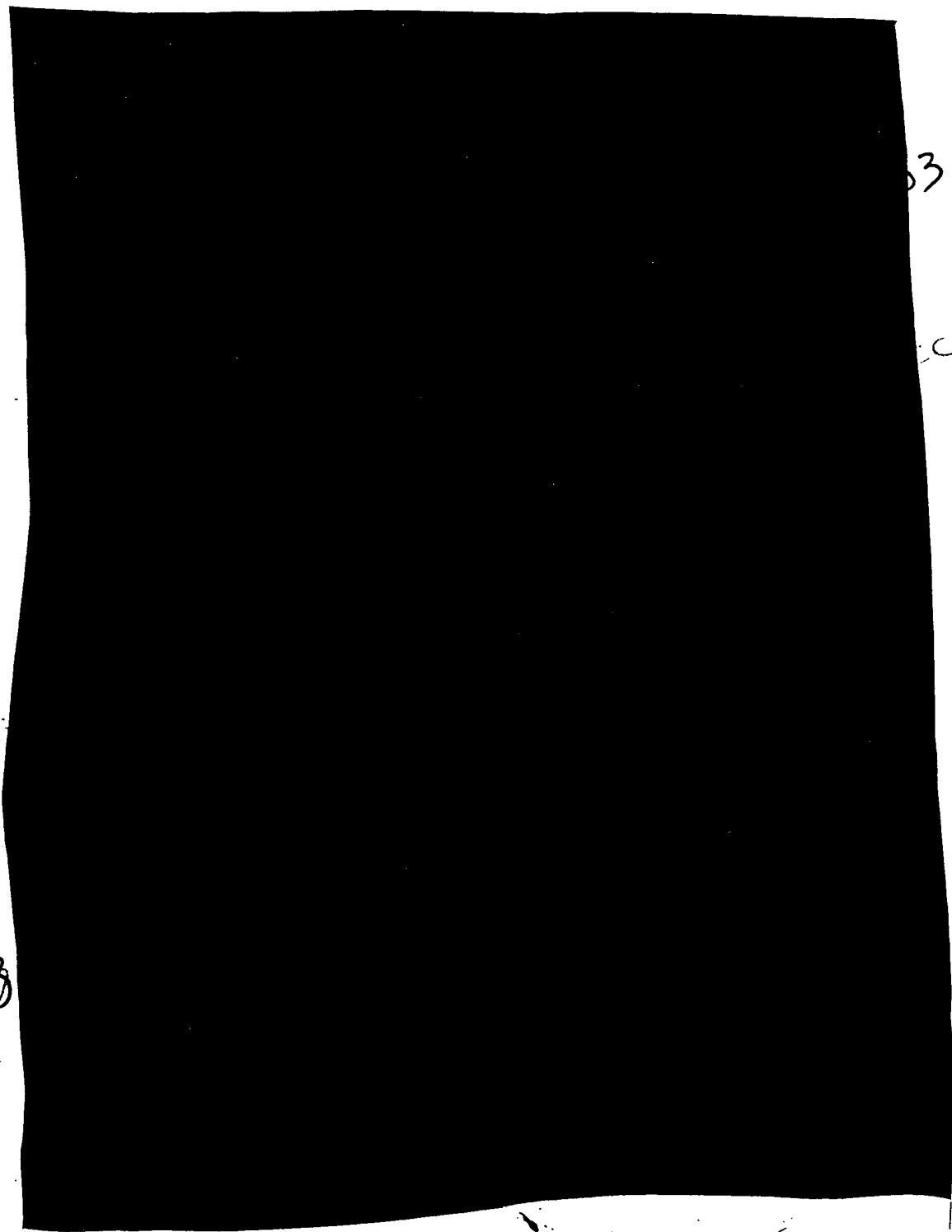
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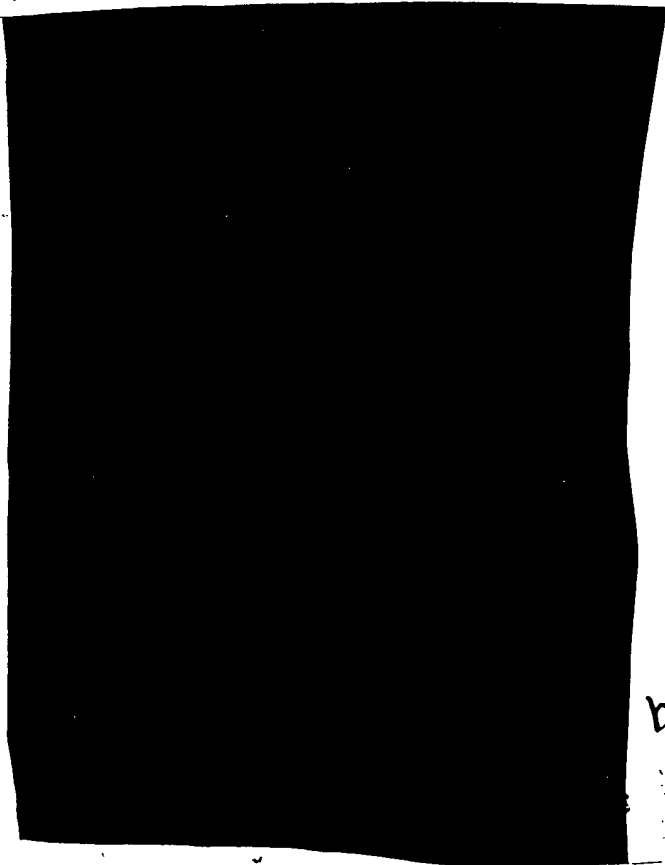
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Lebanon: The November Bombings in Beirut

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Lebanon has been besieged by a recent round of violence directed against both Syrian and Lebanese targets. This latest surge of violence appears to have started in November 1987 with a series of bombings in Beirut—including the airport and American University Hospital—and currently is continuing with numerous attacks against Syrian troops in both Beirut and the north. Damascus has responded with a security crackdown and a partial replacement of regular troops in Beirut with several elite Special Forces units.

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The Start of Something Big?

November marked a turning point in the security situation in Beirut. Within a single week, a number of incidents designed to result in large numbers of indiscriminate casualties occurred. They were almost certainly intended to embarrass the Syrian forces in Lebanon and to send a message of Lebanese political will. In addition to the bombings, almost daily hit-and-run attacks on Syrian troops took place in Beirut and Tripoli, Lebanon's second-largest city. Two of the November bombs exploded, causing serious casualties; four others were defused:

- On 11 November, an explosive device carried by a young Palestinian woman detonated at Beirut International Airport, killing her and four other persons and wounding 73 more. A group calling itself the Lebanese Liberation Organization, which has taken credit for several anti-Syrian attacks in Beirut in recent months, claimed responsibility for the bombing.
- On 14 November, another young woman who carried a bomb disguised as a box of chocolates into the American University Hospital in East Beirut died when the device went off. Six additional persons died and more than 30 others suffered injuries in the blast.
- On 16 November, Lebanese Army bomb disposal experts dismantled a suitcase bomb placed in a supermarket in the Dikwanah area of East Beirut four minutes before it was set to explode. The bomb



Lebanese soldiers inspect the site of the American University Hospital explosion on 14 November 1987.

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reportedly contained five kilograms of TNT and two kilograms of nails. Later that day another device, containing 15 kilograms of TNT and two kilograms of nails, was found and defused near a crowded gas station located only 100 meters from the supermarket. The bombs were similar in construction.

- On 17 November, a bomb left on a sidewalk opposite a bank in Al-Ashrafiyah was discovered and dismantled. This device consisted of 15 kilograms of TNT mixed with three kilograms of nails. Later that day, a second device—containing 10 kilograms of TNT—left on the main road in front of municipal offices in Al-Ashrafiyah was defused.

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The Possible Culprits

Suspicion has focused on the Christian Lebanese Forces, Iran, and Hizballah, but evidence implicating any of these actors is scanty. With the exception of the airport bombing, for which the Lebanese Liberation Front—an anti-Syrian group whose membership is unknown—took credit, there have been no claims of responsibility for any of the incidents. The following evidence about possible perpetrators has been reported:

b1, b3 [REDACTED] initially suspected Hizballah and Iran. [REDACTED] postulated that Iran used the airport bombing to demonstrate its displeasure with the results of the just concluded Arab summit conference in Amman, which included a strong statement against Iran in which Syria participated.

b1, b3 [REDACTED]

b1, b3 [REDACTED]

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Chronology of Terrorism—1987-88

Below are described noteworthy foreign and international events involving terrorists, or the use of terrorist tactics, which have occurred or come to light since our last issue. In some cases, the perpetrators and their motivations may not be known. Events and developments that have already been described elsewhere in this publication are not included.

6 October

Greece: Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) terrorist is released from prison. The prisoner, Vahe Khodaverdian, had been sentenced to 10 years for his involvement in an attempted bombing against the Saudi and Kuwait Air office in Athens in December 1982. He was released after appealing his sentence and having it reduced to two years, which amounted to the time he had served.

3 November

Lebanon: Katyusha rocket damages apartment building inside the security zone. There were no injuries.

West Bank: Palestinians claim incendiary attack on Israeli Egged bus station in Jerusalem. The fire reportedly destroyed many buses.

4 November

Lebanon: Katyusha rocket is fired at northern Galilee in Israel. There were no injuries.

5 November

Lebanon: Palestinian businessman Badr Al-Fahoum is released unharmed in West Beirut, two weeks after he and his driver were kidnaped. The driver was released on 26 October and reportedly carried a message from the kidnapers, demanding \$500,000 for the Palestinian's release. The identity of the kidnapers is unknown.

5/6 November

Lebanon: Two bombs explode within hours of each other in the same vicinity in Sidon. The first bomb exploded in a shop and caused some property damage, while a second device detonated at a garage, apparently causing no significant damage. No group has claimed responsibility for the bombings.

7 November

Colombia: Police deactivate bomb found at the city plaza in Valledupar. Members of the 19th of April Movement (M-19) left a flag at the scene and painted slogans on buildings surrounding the plaza.

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8 November

Chad: Businessman admits involvement in terrorist operation, surrenders to authorities in N'Djamena. The man said he was approached by two businessmen in Nigeria who asked him to help blow up the Lere Bridge across the Mayo-Kebri River. He agreed but, when the terrorists showed him a briefcase bomb, he had second thoughts and revealed the plot to police [REDACTED]

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9 November

Colombia: National Liberation Army (ELN) terrorists take over town of Pailitas, killing a policeman. During the attack, the perpetrators wounded 11 persons, including police officers, soldiers, and five civilians. [REDACTED]

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Iraq: Iraqi revolutionaries protesting Arab summit in Amman, Jordan reportedly attack Jordanian Embassy in Baghdad. The Embassy was damaged but no injuries were reported [REDACTED]

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11 November

Israel: Palestinians plant explosive charge in Tel Aviv suburb. Press reports claim heavy damage. [REDACTED]

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Lebanon: Banker's car is destroyed in bombing in Tripoli. There was one casualty. No group has taken credit for planting the bomb. [REDACTED]

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UAE: Bombs are discovered on the road at Khor Fakkan. One bomb exploded, injuring two children. Illegal Iranian immigrants to the UAE may be responsible. [REDACTED]

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12 November

Colombia: Unknown assailants wound former governor at residence in Valledupar. Armando Barros Baquero had served as governor of Barranquilla department in 1977 and 1978. [REDACTED]

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Lebanon: Car bomb explodes in a Beirut suburb, causing property damage in the area but no injuries. There has been no claim of responsibility. [REDACTED]

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13 November

Peru: Sendero Luminoso (SL) terrorists attack village of Otopa, 200 kilometers south of Ayacucho, killing four persons and kidnaping seven. The group, armed with machineguns and explosives, bombed a school, injuring three teachers who were attending a morning meeting. Other explosives, placed at several buildings in the town, caused extensive damage. [REDACTED]

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Colombia: Police arrest six members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in Barranquilla. One of the arrested terrorists hijacked a Colombian airliner in 1967 and diverted it to Cuba. By 20 November 1987, a judge freed all detainees except for one who was being investigated for possible involvement in the bombing of a bus in January 1987. [REDACTED]

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Colombia: Unknown terrorists release kidnaped rancher for \$32,000 ransom. The victim had been held since 8 September 1987. [REDACTED]

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West Bank: Molotov cocktail is thrown at the police station in the Askar refugee camp. Only slight damage was reported, and there were no injuries. [REDACTED]

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14 November

West Bank: Palestinian woman and her son are injured while preparing explosive charge. The charge's mechanism malfunctioned and exploded, causing the Palestinians to suffer chest wounds from the shrapnel.

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15 November

Lebanon: Bomb planted under car detonates in a Beirut suburb but causes no damage or casualties. No one has claimed responsibility for the explosion.

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16 November

Chile: Bomb explodes in Pudahuel section of Santiago, causing minor damage and no injuries. No one claimed responsibility for the lamppost bombing.

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17 November

Gaza Strip: Spiritual leader of Palestinian Islamic Jihad group is to be deported. The leader's sermons called for the liberation of Palestine through holy war. Palestinian students protested his arrest.

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18 November

Colombia: Guerrillas kidnap son of rancher from Monteria, demanding \$500,000 ransom for his return. [redacted] the boy was kidnaped because the rancher refused to continue extortion payments after he sold his property. In the past, he had regularly paid groups threatening to seize his land.

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UAE: Time bomb is discovered and defused outside a supermarket in al Ain. Illegal Iranian immigrants may be responsible.

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West Bank: Pipe bomb explodes under Israeli vehicle in Halhul damaging the rear of the car. There were no injuries.

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19 November

Colombia: Presumed ELN members place small bomb at public works administration in Barranquilla. The explosion caused no damage or injuries. The perpetrators, who left ELN propaganda at the scene, escaped on motorcycles.

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Israel: Small explosive charge is discovered and defused at a bus stop in Hadera. There were no casualties.

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21 November

Gaza Strip: Molotov cocktails are thrown at a military jeep near the Islamic College. There were no injuries or damages reported.

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22 November

Colombia: FARC terrorists assassinate a councilman and a civic leader in Arenal. The assailants rounded up the town's inhabitants to witness the shootings.

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Colombia: Police arrest ELN guerrillas at an airport in Monteria. The terrorists had intended to kidnap a prominent farmer who was returning from the United States after medical treatment. The attempt failed when his bodyguards observed suspicious individuals at the airport and notified the police. A nurse who cared for the man's mother is accused of revealing his travel plans to the ELN.

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Gaza Strip: Military court sentences member of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad group to 30 years' imprisonment. He was convicted of membership in an illegal association and attempted murder.

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West Bank: Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) soldier is wounded by Molotov cocktail attack in Bethlehem. The firebomb was thrown at the IDF bus near Rachel's Tomb.

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24 November

Colombia: Members of the ELN kill meat vendor and wound two bystanders in Bucaramanga. Pamphlets, left by the assailants, accused the victim of being a government agent.

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25 November

Chile: Six bomb attacks occur in several areas of Santiago, causing a blackout and minor damage but no injuries. No one has claimed responsibility.

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Kuwait: Incendiary device is thrown at entrance to the American Life Insurance Company. The door was destroyed, but there were no injuries. The perpetrators were most likely Kuwaiti Shia sponsored by Iran.

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26 November

Israel: Bomb explodes near Aliya Institute in Petah Tiqva. There were no casualties or damages.

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West Bank: Fatah Force 17 claims responsibility for murder of two Israelis in Jerusalem department store. The victims were stabbed repeatedly and their throats were slit.

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29 November

West Bank: Molotov cocktail is thrown at Israeli vehicle near Qalqilya. There were no injuries or damages.

b3

30 November

West Bank: Molotov cocktail is thrown at Israeli restaurant in south Jerusalem. There were no casualties or damages reported.

b3

West Bank: Molotov cocktail is thrown at Israeli border police vehicle in the Samarian village of Burqa. There were no reports of injury or damage.

b3

Late November

Chad: Security officials arrest four Chadians for 21 October 1987 bombing of US private voluntary organization in Moundou. The explosion, which caused no injuries and only minor damage.

b3

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1 December

France: A French court grants the extradition to Spain of a suspected member of the Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA) for crimes against persons and property. The extradition was not based on the suspect's involvement in an armed gang. b3

2 December

Angola: In Jamba, the Union for Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) releases two Swedish missionaries held captive since early September. They later charged UNITA with neglecting the wounds of a third missionary, who died after the initial attack. b3

10 December

Chile: Unidentified attackers bomb newspaper offices in Valparaiso. Three armed individuals hurled two incendiary bombs inside the El Mercurio offices, causing considerable damage; one policeman was injured as he gave chase. b3

Lebanon: Bomb explodes inside pro-Syrian Arab Party center in the Tripoli suburb of Al-Baddawi, causing many casualties and property damage. The 9 February Organization claimed responsibility for detonating the charge. b3

Northern Ireland: British Army bomb-disposal team defuses boobytrapped bomb left on the grounds of the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Newry. Police accused the Provisional Irish Republican Army (PIRA) of planting the bomb. b3

14 December

Portugal: Four convicted members of the Portuguese Popular Forces of April 25 (FP-25) imprisoned in May 1987 are transferred to a prison hospital near Lisbon, after being on a hunger strike to protest separation from other FP-25 inmates. b3

15 December

Chile: Security officials arrest five alleged terrorists in Santiago. The five, probably members of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR), were caught with guns and explosives as they were about to blow up a power pylon. Police also discovered more weapons when they raided one terrorist's residence. b3

Mid-December

b3 Turkey: Security forces capture 18 leftist militants in Agri Province. The suspects were accused with doing propaganda work and providing separatists—presumably members of the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK)—with stolen money and arms. b3

Turkey: Police capture 32 members of unidentified illegal organizations in Sanliurfa, Erzincan, and Tunceli Provinces. Explosives and literature were seized in raids on the homes and workplaces of 16 persons captured in Sanliurfa and suspected of reviving their organization. Some of the 11 persons arrested in Erzincan were accused of putting up boobytrapped posters; the five captured in Tunceli were charged with sheltering unidentified terrorists. b3

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16 December

Northern Ireland: Two bomb blasts in a predominantly Protestant housing project in Londonderry kill a Catholic man and injure 15 persons, including six children. A third bomb failed to detonate.

[redacted] but the group disclaimed responsibility.

Turkey: PKK kidnaps five villagers in Eruh district of Siirt Province. Before leaving, the kidnapers told remaining villagers that the hostages would be conscripted by the group for a year and a half.

17 December

Northern Ireland: A car bomb explodes outside the home of a Belfast justice. The blast caused no injuries but badly damaged several homes, including that of the US Vice Consul.

18 December

Switzerland: Bern extradites Gabriele Tiedemann to West Germany to face charges connected with the attack in December 1975 on the OPEC Building in Vienna and a kidnapping in November 1977. Tiedemann had completed 10 years of a 15-year sentence for shooting two Swiss customs officers.

23 December

Northern Ireland: Car bomb kills John McMichael, second-in-command of the Ulster Defense Association, in Belfast. PIRA claimed credit for the attack.

24 December

Ireland: Police find an underground bunker they suspect was built by PIRA to store weapons and ammunition. This was the third bunker discovered in a search along both sides of the border with Northern Ireland. [redacted] All of the storage facilities were empty.

25 December

[redacted]

26 December

Turkey: Adana military court sentences members of Turkish People's Liberation Party/Front-Swift Ones (Acilciler). One member received a death sentence, while four others were sentenced to 13 years and four months imprisonment for unspecified crimes committed between 1980 and 1984. Five others were acquitted.

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Late December

Turkey: Police arrest 36 alleged terrorists and supporters in Diyarbakir Province. Four of the arrested persons reportedly were suspected terrorists, while the remainder provided unspecified aid to terrorists, distributed propaganda, and were involved in preparations for terrorist activities. The PKK is active in the region. b3

29 December

Turkey: Chairman of Social Democratic Populis Party in Kiziltepe is among seven suspected PKK terrorists captured in Mardin Province. [REDACTED] b1, b3

Turkey: Bomb explodes at Sumerbank retail store in Izmir, causing some damage but no injuries. The PKK [REDACTED] took responsibility for the bombing and threatened future attacks. b3

31 December

Spain: Spanish bomb disposal experts blow up powerful explosive device in Calella del Mar after a local radio station receives warning from a man claiming to be with Terra Lliure, a Catalanian separatist group. Police found the homemade bomb [REDACTED] next to a radio transmitter used by civil guard police. b3

Turkey: PKK militants clash with Turkish troops in Siirt Province, killing an army major and five others. Three PKK members also died in the battle. b3

4 January

Spain: Spanish police announce the arrest of a man suspected of supplying the ETA with material for making bombs. The suspect is also believed to be ETA's electronics expert. b3